



Next KAP Meeting

When:

**Wednesday, March
6th, 2013**

Location:

Paul Sawyer

**Library, Frankfort,
KY**

Lunch is provided,

please RSVP to

jan.hatfield@ky.gov

The Kentucky Asthma Program and the 8 Health Department Pilot Sites had their annual Retreat October 18th and 19th at the Barren River State Resort Park. The group met to discuss asthma initiatives and activities in their communities and schools for the upcoming year. The retreat also provides an interactive opportunity between pilot sites and KDPH for the sharing of best practices and successes. Dr. Thomas Sternberg with the Graves-Gilbert Clinic in Bowling Green spoke to the group about current issues in Asthma patient education.



Beth Van Cleve, Asthma Clinician and Certified Asthma Educator from Kosair's Children's Hospital provided an overview of severity classifications with case studies, asthma medication and device overview, and a review of the Asthma Educators Certification program.



Increasing Asthma Awareness in the Lake Cumberland District

The Lake Cumberland District Health Department (LCDHD) partners with all 14 local area school districts to provide 54 modified health department clinics within area school buildings. An estimated 10.7% of children ages 0-17 years in Kentucky have asthma. Among children with asthma in Kentucky, hospitalization rates are highest among children ages of 5-9. The LCDHD has 2,758 asthmatics within their school community. Only 836 of these students identified with asthma have medication at school (either in the nurse's office or in their backpacks) and only 265 asthmatics had Asthma Action Plans on file at school. LCDHD school nurses performed 2,150 routine asthma visits and 2,004 non-routine asthma visits within the 2011-2012 school year. Only 15 of these 4,154 total visits resulted in an emergency related physician referral. Although school nurses do make a difference in the health management of asthmatics, the numbers above indicate more asthma education and awareness is essential for these students both medically and financially. LCDHD is proud to report there are 3 Certified Asthma Educators (AE-C) on staff.

The LCDHD's Certified Asthma Educators have performed much needed asthma education to schools' faculty and staff, students, parents and all 65 LCDHD school nurses. The AE-C's have performed asthma education and awareness at local school and community health fairs and have developed school-specific education where asthma health problems have been identified within the school (ex: common environmental triggers). The LCDHD Certified Asthma Educators and school nurses continue to increase asthma education and awareness on a daily basis at each school site. The LCDHD school health program continues to develop new strategies to increase asthma education and awareness through our partnerships with the KRDPH and networking with local and state Public Health officials.

Would you like to be a Member of the Kentucky Asthma Partnership?

Email
jan.hatfield@ky.gov

Free Online Training

EPA Sponsors Free, On-Demand Training on Health Effects of Air Particles on Children -

The course must be completed before March 22, 2013 to qualify for CEUs.

The webinars can be accessed at [http://](http://www.acmt.net/)

www.acmt.net/

[ACMT_Webinars.html](http://www.acmt.net/ACMT_Webinars.html).

Check it Out!! Valuable Asthma Resources check out!

[http://](http://www.clinicians.org/asthmaresource)
[www.clinicians.org/](http://www.clinicians.org/asthmaresource)
[asthmaresource](http://www.clinicians.org/asthmaresource)

Use-inhalers.com
[http://www.use-](http://www.use-inhalers.com/)
[inhalers.com/](http://www.use-inhalers.com/)

What our Pilot Sites are doing!

Montgomery Co. is preparing for an Asthma 1-2-3 training with their Promotoras (Spanish word for community health worker) who in turn share their knowledge within the Hispanic community. In April, They plan to launch their first Teen Promotora program which will focus on health needs of Hispanic teens. They plan to host their Quarterly Healthy Communities Coalition meeting on Jan. 30th and provide updates to their community partners on Asthma prevalence, events or educational opportunities.

Barren River District Health Department's Denise Houchin, AE-C has joined the Healthy Hart Coalition in Hart County. She will be working with community leaders and will be a great resource for asthma education.

In September, Kaylene Cornell with the **Purchase District Health Department** taught an Asthma Self-Management Education Class at the Medical Free Clinic in Paducah. She also attended the Essentials of Healthy Housing Practitioner's Certification Course at Ashland Boyd Training Center in October. Congratulations to Kaylene for passing the certification exam!

Pike County Health Department's Octavia Dales conducted a presentation on asthma self-management to parents with asthmatics. at 2 elementary schools in November. Octavia has also completed 7 school asthma awareness campaigns with 3rd graders across Pike Co. In the meantime, Octavia has created 25 packets that contain Breathing for Two, Asthma Triggers, 2ndHand Smoke and Quit line to share with the HANDS clients in Pike Co.

In November, **Lake Cumberland District Health Department's** Beth Thomas and Deann Cross conducted Asthma Surveillance in all 54 school sites in Lake Cumberland District Health Department's (LCDHD) 14 school systems. Each school nurse at all school sites continuously collaborate with schools, parents and physicians on obtaining Asthma Action Care Plans for each asthmatic to ensure quality of care at school. LCDHD school clinics began Flu clinics in late September and were completed by mid-December. A total of 3, 449 total flu vaccines were given in 54 school sites (w/in 10 county district).

Cumberland Valley District Health Department's Rhonda Bowling did a presentation on asthma education and management at J-CHIPS coalition (Jackson Co. Health Improvement Partners) Partners include DCBS, schools and FRC/YSCs, local medical/chiropractic providers, extension, city council, and public transit. Rhonda also maintains the Healthy Clay website (Healthy Clay coalition includes multiple community partners in Clay County) where she posts asthma awareness information.

In December, 2012, Kristen Humphrey from the **Lincoln Trail District Health Department (LTDHD)** spoke to school health nurses from Hardin, Larue, and Marion counties about asthma surveillance, assessment, and treatment within the school setting. Every school in Hardin, Larue, and Marion counties have access to Creating Asthma Friendly Schools in KY Resource Guide.

Resources available on the KDPH Respiratory Disease Program website:

<http://chfs.ky.gov/asthma>

[Creating Asthma Friendly Schools Resource Guide](#)

[PANTA Plus - Physical Activity, Nutrition, Tobacco and Asthma—A School Resource](#)